

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

ALEXIS SANCHEZ,

Plaintiff,

V.

**HOSPITAL CORPORATION OF
AMERICA – FAR WEST DIVISION (HCA
HEALTHCARE), et al.,**

Defendants.

Case No. 2:25-cv-00618-ART-NJK

Order

[Docket No. 27]

Pending before the Court is a stipulation to extend the answer deadlines for Defendants Johnson, Monica Strauss, and Christine Poudy by roughly two months. Docket No. 27.

Requests to extend deadlines require a showing of good cause. Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(b)(1).

With respect to seeking relief as to expired deadlines, a further showing of excusable neglect is required. Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(b)(1)(B).¹

These defendants have already enjoyed ample time to respond to the complaint. *See* Docket Nos. 13-15 (waivers of service). Nonetheless, they seek an additional two months to respond to the complaint based on the potential that the case may settle with the existing parties at the early neutral evaluation session scheduled in August. *See* Docket No. 27 at 2.² Absent from the rules establishing the early neutral evaluation program are provisions that party obligations are otherwise stalled until the session takes place. *See* Local Rule 16-6. Moreover, alternative dispute resolution efforts and settlement discussions are generally not good cause to delay case progression. *See Williams v. James River Grp. Inc.*, 627 F. Supp. 3d 1172, 1181 (D. Nev. 2022)

¹ Although the stipulation acknowledges that the subject deadline has already expired, see Docket No. 27 at 1 (noting deadline of June 20, 2025), the stipulation does not address excusable neglect.

² The stipulation indicates that the “majority” of discovery can be obtained from the existing parties, such that the extension sought should not “significantly” delay the case’s progression. Docket No. 27 at 2.

1 (collecting cases). The Court is not persuaded that the mere hope of a settlement at the early
2 neutral evaluation justifies adding another two months to these defendants' deadlines to respond
3 to the complaint.

4 Accordingly, the stipulation is DENIED.

5 IT IS SO ORDERED.

6 Dated: June 24, 2025

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8 Nancy J. Koppe
9 United States Magistrate Judge

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